



PATENT

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12/18/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tachikawa et al.)
Serial No. 10/078,900)
Filed: February 19, 2002)
For: DATA PROCESSING)
APPARATUS)
Art Unit: 2673)

Conf. No. 4817

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as FIRST-CLASS mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this date.

12/5/2003 Jan K. Folker
Date Registration No. 37,538
F-CLASS.WCM

Appr. February 20, 1998 Attorney for Applicant

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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DEC 10 2003

Technology Center 2600

DEC 11 2003

TC 2600

Dear Sir:

This IDS is submitted under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within either of the following time periods, whichever occurs last:

- (a) within three months of either the filing date of the national application or the date of entry into the national stage; or
- (b) before the mailing date of first office action on the merits (i.e., not including actions such as restriction requirements).

Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO-1449 (Information Disclosure Citation) together with copies of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which applicant(s) believe may be material to the examination of this application and for which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56. Applicant(s) respectfully submit that the citation of any reference on Form PTO-1449 does not constitute an admission that the reference qualifies as prior art.

It is requested that the information disclosed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be made of record in this application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to this application under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.17, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 07-2069. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

GREER, BURNS & CRAIN, LTD.

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